

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/678,045 Confirmation No. : 6655
Applicant : Hiroshi SHINRIKI, et al.
Filed : October 3, 2003
TC/A.U. : Unassigned
Examiner : Unassigned
Docket No. : 010986.52822US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING
SUBSTRATES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § § 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

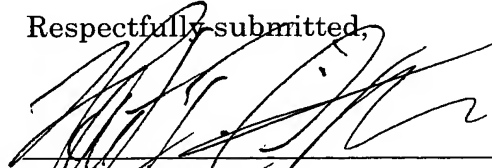
In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

An English-abstract is provided herewith for the reference listed on the PTO 1449 as AA.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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July 5, 2004

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